

The Times' Daily Short Story.

THE JAILER'S DAUGHTER

[Original.]

The moon looked down on the little jail at L., in the state of Georgia. There were but two persons on the premises, one a prisoner, the other the jailer's daughter, aged eighteen. Her father had been obliged to leave her in charge to go and attend to business that would not wait. Susie Leadbetter had seen the prisoner brought in, a devil may care looking young fellow whose appearance had taken her fancy. Now she was wondering what he had been brought there for and what he was thinking about. She went to the door of his cell and stood listening. Presently she called softly:

"What are you doing? Why, yes, it's lonesome in here. I want you to talk to."

"What were you put in for?"

"Shooting. A man called me a liar."

"Did you shoot him for that?"

"Had to. A gentleman can't stand to be called a liar. I say, if you'll unlock the door I'll come out and tell you about it."

"No," she said thoughtfully. "I couldn't look pop in the face if I did it. He'd never trust me again."

But she stood with each hand on a bar of the cell door and listened to his story. When he had finished she thought it very unjust that he should be there for resenting an insult. He had a winning way with him, making light of his misfortune, but when he told her that he fancied some of his enemy's friends might get up a party to come to take him out of the jail and hang him a serious expression crossed his face which was reflected in that of the young girl.

Then she went away to sit on the doorstep and think about the prisoner. She looked out on the moonlight streaming over the meadow on the shining river beyond, at the queen of night, and everywhere she saw those dark eyes, that pleasant smile, and thought what a dreadful thing it would be if a mob should come to hang the handsome prisoner.

Presently she saw a dark figure emerge from a wood and survey the jail. Then another came out and in a few minutes half a dozen men were moving stealthily toward her.

Her heart stood still.

There are faculties that at times seem to be set in motion to act independently; a sort of hypnotic condition in which the mind instead of being under the control of another mind is dominated by a force of circumstances. Susie arose from her seat on the doorstep, went inside, took from a corner of the room her father's rifle and, pulling a bureau out into the center of the room, took position behind it. She had barely time to examine the cartridges

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DEATH OF SHEN CHEN.

How the Dowager Empress Deals With Chinese Reformers.

Peking, Aug. 7.—Edward T. Williams, the Chinese secretary of the United States legation, has made an extensive investigation into the execution of Shen Chen, the reformist journalist, who was put to death by orders of the dowager empress July 31, and has handed Minister Conger a detailed report, proving that the executioners, after beating Chen for three or four hours, despaired of being able to fulfill the dowager empress' orders and yielding to Shen's pleadings to end his misery, strangled him with their hands.

Shen Chen was executed by special instructions from the dowager empress, who desired to make an example of the reformers with which to terrify other reformers. The execution was declared to be the most horrible that has occurred in China since the massacre of 1900. The victim was beaten with bamboo rods in the courtyard of the yamen of the board of punishment until the flesh on his back, arms and legs was torn to ribbons.

Chen was thirty years old and had many friends among the foreign residents of the city, who described him as educated and high minded. The affair has created intense feeling in the foreign community at Peking and a strong sentiment against surrendering the Shanghai reformers to Chinese jurisdiction.

THE JETT-WHITE TRIAL

Defense Continues to Contradict Prosecution's Witnesses.

Cynthiana, Ky., Aug. 7.—In the case of the commonwealth against Jett and White, the defense put Henry F. Wilson, a drummer of this place, on the witness stand to prove the existence of a large hole in the floor of the courthouse at Jackson. His testimony corroborated fully Dr. Taubee, James Hargis and Ed Callahan as to the fact of there being trees between the house of Marcus and the rock quarry. On cross examination he said his expenses were paid by Jackson and he was to get \$10 besides.

Green Strong and James Lee, other witnesses, who were introduced to prove the bad character and reputation of Captain Ewen, on cross examination were made to contradict former statements. Burt Jett and Thomas White were called to the stand and asked by the defense to go to the farther end of the courthouse and stand side by side with their backs to the jury and their hats on. This is upon the theory of the defense that they looked much alike and so nearly the same height that at several hundred yards they could not be told apart.

Considerable consternation was created when Brock Combs was recalled and made the statement that he had never testified; that when he gave his story yesterday he had not been sworn.

Hurst National League Umpire.

New York, Aug. 6.—President Pullman has announced the appointment of Tim Hurst as a National league umpire.

A WOMAN'S BACK.

The Aches and Pains Will Disappear If the Advice of This Barre Citizen Is Followed.

A woman's back has many aches and pains. Most times 'tis the kidney's fault. Backache is really kidney ache. That's why Doan's Kidney Pills cure it.

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NOVEL EGG LAYING RACE

American Flocks Reported Leading in Australian Contest.

THE TEST ARRANGED FOR A YEAR

Picked Fowls to the Number of Four Hundred and Twenty Eight For Honors Upon the Grounds of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. Fifty Breeds Are Represented.

Whoop'er up for the great little American hen. She's racing down here in Australia, eighteen of her, against 402 Australian hens in an international, interstate, world's first egg laying competition, and she's been ahead from the first, and at last accounts she was still leading. But the race is one for a year, a whole year, and of course, since the race is not always to the swift, the great little American hen may continue the fight or she may be beaten by next April, when the race will end, says the Sydney correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, writing under date of July 6.

For some time previous to April, 1902, two New South Walesmen, A. E. Henry of Ryde and H. E. Kelly of Campbelltown, had been hotly debating with each other in the columns of one of the Sydney newspapers the respective merits of Silver Wyandottes and Buff Orpingtons. Poultry breeders and poultry journal readers in many other parts of New South Wales joined in the wordy fray, and finally Henry challenged Kelly to an egg laying contest, each with his favorite fowl.

Out of this proposition grew an open competition, backed by a newspaper which donated the sum of \$105 as prize money. John Kidd, the minister of mines and agriculture, was waited upon, and he granted permission that the race be held upon the grounds of the Hawkesbury Agricultural college, one of the best institutions of its kind in the world.

These are the conditions determined upon for the competition: The pens for the competing fowls were to be 57 by 17 feet, constructed of iron bark posts and six foot wire netting. The houses, each divided to answer as two pens, were to be 11 by 6 feet, 5 1/2 feet high in front and 4 1/2 feet at the back. The fronts were to be open wire netting with a northeasterly aspect.

The competition was to begin April 1. The competitors were bound to pen their birds during March, each pen to consist of six pullets or hens of any age, no male bird to be excluded. All birds were to be bred by the competitor. All birds were to be examined by the poultry expert of the college, D. S. Thompson, upon their arrival at the college. If a bird died during the competition it was to be replaced.

The competition was to be decided by the greatest total number of eggs laid by the birds in each pen, eggs under one and one-half ounces were not to count. The market value of the eggs laid was to be recorded; also the weight of eggs from each pen; also the total quantities of the various foods consumed by the competing birds; also the cost of maintaining the birds per head, and finally the prizes were to be awarded according to the aggregate weight of eggs, pen against pen.

The American competitors in this great race are: W. B. Candee, Fayetteville, N. Y.; White Wyandottes; Mrs. A. H. Hansell, Loup City, Neb.; Brown Leghorns, and W. K. Hays, Henleyville, Cal.; White Wyandottes. The birds arrived in Sydney on March 14 last in a sad plight. They had had a rough passage indeed, but had survived and were thriving for a chance to distinguish themselves, their breeders and their country. Mr. Thompson tenderly took them in hand and ere long they began to lay at a furious rate. The year long race began on April 1, and those modest Nebraska Brown Leghorns bore Old Glory to the front in the egg line on the first day and have done it every day since.

Expert Thompson, in response to questions regarding the competition, said: "Fifty breeds are represented. The students at the college eat the eggs. The fowls are all doing splendidly and the number of eggs from the competition is 180 per day. The American Brown Leghorns are ahead just now, and they have been from the first. The last time I took the number they were ahead of the best Australians by five eggs. The best Australians are Silver Laced Wyandottes, owned by G. Howell of Wentworthville, N. S. W. I was disappointed that there were two sets of White Wyandottes in the American lot. I wanted the selection to be three different breeds, so we could have an even better idea of what the Americans can do. The students at the college take a great interest in the competition, and they do all the work—the manual work—connected with it, under charge of a poultry man."

Mr. Thompson is deeply interested in this competition, for he holds the view—which, it seems, is controverted by the large majority of poultry breeders—that by means of these competitions breeds of fowls can eventually be scientifically classified as egg producers, and thus those who do commerce in poultry and eggs can indubitably know which is the best bird for the table, which the best for laying and which the best for general utility.

Mr. Thompson, like a good Australian, thinks the Australian bird will win in this laying race, but he isn't laying any wagers. Anyhow, even if they do, there is to be a much bigger competition of the same sort next year, and the number of American pens is to be increased.

The Royal Inniskilling dragoons are to wear a gray plume in the bustles in recognition of the brilliant services of the First Battalion in the Boer war.

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WHITAKER WRIGHT ARRAIGNED.

Promoter Held For Trial In London In \$250,000 Bail.

London, Aug. 6.—Whitaker Wright, the promoter and director of the London and Globe corporation, limited, who was arrested in New York on the charge of having falsified the accounts of the company and subsequently extradited on the request of the British authorities, was arraigned at the Guildhall police court and remanded after formal evidence of his arrest had been taken.

Charged With Robbing Mint.
Philadelphia, Aug. 6.—Robert J. Kilpatrick, employed as a laborer at the United States mint in this city, has been arrested by secret service operatives, charged with stealing 858 silver dollars from a mint vault. The money was stolen while the coins in the mint were being transferred from one vault to another. The robbery occurred in December and January last. The coins were in canvas bags and boxes. A loose dollar aroused suspicion and led to the discovery that a robbery had been committed. During the search a penknife, with which the packages had been opened, was found, and this led to the identification of Kilpatrick as the thief.

Jewish Emigration From Russia.
St. Petersburg, Aug. 6.—According to advices from Elisabethgrad the Jewish immigration to America from the province of Kherson is rapidly increasing. Three hundred Jewish families started for the United States in June, while during July ten to twenty families left daily for the same destination.

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